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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director (Administration)

SUBJECT: Working Conditions in 350 26th Street Building
(Riverside Stadium)

REFERENCES: Memoranda dated 25 November 1953 and 12 December 1953,
both on the above subject

1. As a follow-up of the matter described in the two above-cited memoranda, this Office again has surveyed Riverside Stadium with the following findings:

a. Cleanliness

(1) Despite the statement by the Public Buildings Service (paragraph A(3) of the 12 December memorandum) that " . . . coco matting at entrance ways is a standard equipment and . . . these mats will be installed.", no mats were found at the entrance.

(2) Although it was reported (paragraph A(2) of the 12 Dec. memo.) that action had been taken with the Public Buildings Service to improve the appearance of the entrance way to the building, this entrance way was found littered with trash and with refuse cans occupying a prominent spot, all just as at the time of the original survey. Although it is stated (in the same paragraph) that arrangements had been made for painting and cleaning, it was found that partitions have not been painted, the foyer in particular being noticeably dirtier, and the appearance of the toilets is unimproved.

(3) The flooring has received no surfacing treatment and personnel working in the building continue to complain of the dust.

(4) Exterminator service has been provided and there was found no recent complaint of mice.

(5) A satisfactory job of new flooring and sub-flooring work has been completed in the areas indicated in this Office's 25 November memorandum.

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b. Ventilation

Nothing was found to have been done to improve the ventilation problem. Personnel still consider a mid-afternoon headache due to poor ventilation as SOP.

c. Screens

It was found that additional screens have been furnished.

2. Although the floor surfacing does present a problem as stated in paragraph A(1) of the 12 December memorandum, it would not appear to follow that this problem is insoluble. It would seem in order that a renewed effort be made to have the flooring in the Riverside Stadium treated in some manner which will reduce the present unsatisfactory excess of dust. One step to this end, of course, would be to install the promised coco matting. Aside from matting, however, some permanent surfacing treatment is needed.

3. There does not appear to be a satisfactory explanation of the failure to effect as elementary an action as removing refuse from the building entrance.

4. Although arrangements for painting and cleaning (i. e., other than daily cleaning) normally do entail some delay, attention is invited to the fact that it is now some two months since such arrangements were initiated.

5. In the light of the preceding paragraphs, I would appreciate being advised regarding

a. steps taken to effect the needed cleaning listed in paragraph 1. a.; and

b. the results of the study reported by the 12 December memorandum as being made by the Public Buildings Service of the ventilation system.

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MAN B. KIRKPATRICK
Inspector General

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